

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

SERMON AT ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL BY BISHOP KEANE.

Banquet Last Night--Speeches and Toasts and a Good Time Generally, etc., etc.

The festival of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was celebrated yesterday, and, against all precedent, the weather, instead of being raw, dusty, cloudy, and blustering, was sunny, mild, and pleasant--more a March than a March day. At 9:30 A. M. the Catholic societies met at Cathedral Hall and marched to the Cathedral, where, under the high mass was sung--Rev. Father Deberry, pastor of St. Patrick's, the celebrant, with Fathers Tierney and Dimmen as deacon and sub-deacon. All the clergy of the Cathedral took part in the ceremonies.

The church was occupied by a large congregation, among whom was Governor Lee, Dr. Buchanan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, ex-Governor Winston, and Judge Bartlett--the last two of New Hampshire.

SERMON FROM THE BISHOP.

Bishop Keane preached a sermon from the 93d Psalm, four hundred and following verses, in which he pictured St. Patrick, at the close of his apostolic career, asking for Almighty God for the nation which he had evangelized for the same favor which was asked by the mother of James and John for her sons. His one request was that the nation of his apostolate should ever stand faithfully, close to the side of our Lord. The same condition is demanded as of James and John, that she should drink the bitter cup of our Saviour. In her name she accepts the condition, and makes the promise. Henceforth her only portion, her only real greatness, is faith, Christ, God. But what other greatness is real? The ruins of Babylon, Athens, and Rome show how evanescent is earthly material greatness. Macaulay has foretold how learned travellers from New Zealand will one day visit the ruins of Great Britain. Napoleon at the zenith of his glory declared that his happiest day was the day of his first communion; and when he, too, fell like a broken Colossus, the consolations of religion were his only comfort. The martyrs of the Colosseum were greater and nobler than the tyrants who put them to death. Such has been the greatness of poor persecuted Erin for many a century--the greatness of conscience, of readiness to die for faith, rather than buy it by its sacrifice. Greater has she been at the foot of the Cross with John and the Virgin Mary than all like other nations, she had, Judas-like, sold him and his faith for money. Will she in the days of prosperity that seem coming be able to stand that dangerous test, as she has stood the test of suffering and persecution? Or will she, like other nations, sell her birthright for a mess of pottage, for filthy lucre, or for earthly prosperity? Better that, as St. Patrick prayed, the waters of the sea should engulf her than that she should be traitor to God.

While other nations boast of deeds of war, of men of blood and iron, and have for their symbol the lion, the eagle, the vulture, the mailed arm and bloody dagger, Ireland boasts of her sainted apostle and his holy fellow-laborers for God; for faith, for learning, for salvation, and has for her symbol the harp, the praise of God, the winning smile, the symbolizing of the Trinity, and the wolf-dog, faithful guardian of the fold. May these, her symbols of faith and virtue, be the badge of her children in every clime; a badge of honor, if their lives be worthy of what it symbolizes; a badge of shame and condemnation, if their lives be a reproach to faith and virtue. For the old land, and for her sons, may the prayer of St. Patrick be ever granted.

The sermon was a strong one and attentively listened to by all present.

THE BANQUET LAST NIGHT.

At night there was a banquet given by the Catholic societies--furnished at D. Columbus's ice-cream parlors. The menu was a choice one, and included many delicacies. The tables were prettily ornamented, and the gas-luxures over the tables were festooned with red and white--an original idea here with Mr. Columbus.

After supper the toasts were announced in the following order, and responded to by the persons named:

- 1. St. Patrick's Day--The Day We Celebrate. The embodiment of Ireland's history, the world over turn to their mother and celebrate her name.
- 2. Catholic Societies. The guardians of truth and peace to all mankind.
- 3. Father and Son.
- 4. The United States.

Great in a pure and noble fame And destined in her day to be. Might as Rome and Athens were.

5. Ireland. The fairest land among nations, the birthplace of the noblest and truest of the world. Though her harp is now silent, still she resounds with the voice of her noblest sons.

6. The City of Richmond. From the hills on which she stands, may her onward progress be the pathway of truth and civilization, of advancing property and elevation.

7. Charles Stewart Parnell and the Irish National Party. For Freedom comes from God's right hand and not from man's. And needs a godly and righteous man to make our land a nation once again.

8. W. E. Gladstone. In the near future may the Republic be written and its motives virtuous.

9. R. F. B. The eagle and shield of every people. Its freedom is as necessary to a country's greatness as the skill of its mechanics, the truthfulness of its men.

10. Peter J. McGuire. He was appointed to respond to this toast.

11. Dr. Daffron (chairman) read a letter from Mr. Burton regretting that he could not be present.

A song was then called for from Mr. W. E. Gladstone, who responded, and was loudly cheered for his performance.

The health of Governor Lee was drunk; after which the banquet dispersed.

Supreme Court of Appeals, Yesterday. Green's administrator against Thompson's administrator and others. Cause put on privileged docket.

Foley Brothers & Co. against Shriver Brothers. Argued by Judge James E. Heath, for appellants, and Colonel Thomas Tabb, for appellees, and submitted.

Hastings Court. Charles McQueen, indicted for practicing dentistry without a license, was tried and found not guilty. Thereupon the Commonwealth's Attorney moved the Court to set aside the verdict upon the ground that the same was contrary to the law and the evidence, which motion the Court overruled. The Commonwealth's Attorney excepted to the ruling of the Court, and an appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court of Appeals.

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R. C. O. Benjamin, a colored lawyer, who was convicted some months ago in the Police Court of petit larceny and

AMONG THE PINES.

NOTES GATHERED HERE AND THERE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

An Interesting Case--Old Bonds Received--Personal Notes--Attempt to Burn a Town.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., March 17. A warrant was issued yesterday for the arrest of Willie Watkins, a lad who, it is claimed, accidentally caused the fire at Wilmington on Saturday night last. The warrant recites that on the 13th day of March William Watkins did, with motives unknown, set fire to the building on the west side of North Water street between Princess and Chestnut streets, and from suspicious circumstances connected therewith caused a fire to break out, which destroyed the building and the contents thereof, and caused the loss of property to the amount of \$10,000. The case attracts much attention. The trial was begun to-day, but was postponed until to-morrow.

Today very large quantities of old bonds were received at the State Treasury for conversion into new ones. The receipts were the largest for one day in two years, being \$50,000 in 4-per-cent, and \$130,000 in North Carolina railroad 6-per-cent, coupon bonds.

The directors of the penitentiary here to-day in monthly session. They made no new assignments of convicts. All the available ones are to go to the Cape-Fair and Yadin-Ville and Western North Carolina railroads.

George S. Scott, of New York, formerly president of the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company, and at present one of the largest owners in the many railroads comprising the Richmond and Danville system, arrived here to-day in his private car by special train, in company with his two daughters and Miss Hubert. They are the guests of Colonel A. B. Andrews. The have inspected the line of the Western North Carolina railroad and the scenery in the Blue Ridge section. They paid their respects to Governor Scales to-day.

A great number of tramps have made their appearance. The State has been free of them for a year or more. They are going both north and south.

An attempt was made to-day by special train, in company with his two daughters and Miss Hubert. They are the guests of Colonel A. B. Andrews. The have inspected the line of the Western North Carolina railroad and the scenery in the Blue Ridge section. They paid their respects to Governor Scales to-day.

Yesterday Archie McNeill and wife were driving in a buggy in Robeson county the horse ran away. Both were thrown out and hurt, the husband badly and the wife very seriously.

Daniel G. Carter, long a member of the House of the Legislature from Vance county, died yesterday at his home at Barnesville, aged fifty-eight.

The people of Robeson county and of the town of Lumberton are taking steps to celebrate the centennial of both, which falls on the 4th of July this year.

A Parkersburg special says: Information was received here to-day of the killing of a man and boy and the wounding of others at Spaulding, a small village in the remote interior. It appears that Mr. Preston Bennett, a well-known citizen, was attending an exhibition at the village, and while the show was in progress J. M. Picklesheimer, an ex-baptist minister, who had fallen from grace since his conversion, came up and engaged in a conversation with the proprietor. He was insulting and abusive and was refused admittance, and eventually was ordered off the grounds. He went away muttering vengeance, and in a short time returned with a double-barrelled shotgun, and when he got within a few feet of Bennett he suddenly drew his gun and fired. Bennett fell dead in the arms of Professor Gordon, who stood near him.

The assassin then emptied the other barrel into the crowd, killing a little boy named Hamilton and severely wounding William Bane and a young woman. Before the people recovered from the horror of the tragedy Picklesheimer escaped, but soon after a few determined men started in pursuit. He was tracked in the direction of Tug Fork, and after a long chase was overtaken and surrounded in the wildest part of that region. Several officers were with the posse which captured the murderer, to which fact he certainly owed his life, as the people were bent on lynching him.

After a long deal of trouble the outlaw succeeded in getting him safely to Logan Courthouse and lodged him in the jail there.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: A. says that the Lieutenant-Governor's residence is with the Governor. I say no. Mr. Massey lives, I think, in Albemarle county.

Please settle this for us, and give us the address of Mr. Massey?

Also tell us if gold was ever at a discount? If so, when?

The Lieutenant-Governor does not reside with the Governor.

Mr. MASSEY's address is Charlottesville.

Yes; gold was at a discount from 1850 to 1872. That is to say, an ounce of gold bullion was worth less than sixteen ounces of silver.

A correspondent of the Chicago Times, writing from Richmond, says: Just before I left Washington my honorable friend and semi-detached neighbor, Senator Voorhees, gave me a letter to Governor Fitzhugh Lee so flatteringly worded that it procured me a cordial reception and pleasant interview. Indeed, a "recommend" from Mr. Voorhees is equal to a patent of nobility here. Governor Lee is such a wholesome, happy-looking, genial man that it is good for one's health to shake hands and talk with him.

Claims of American Citizens. (By telegram to the Dispatch.) CITY OF MEXICO, March 17. United States-Minister Jackson has left for home on a three-months' leave. It is reported here that he is to have a conference with Secretary Bayard regarding certain claims of American citizens pending against the Mexican Government. Consul-General Perch is also investigating a number of similar cases.

The fame of Mme. Le Brun's famous Greek supper spread all over Paris. The King was told that the supper cost 20,000 francs. The sum was swelled to 40,000 by the time the story reached Rome. Mme. Le Brun writes: "At Vienna the Baroness De Strogoff told me that I had spent 50,000 francs for my Greek supper, at St. Petersburg the price was fixed at 80,000 francs, and the truth is that that supper cost me about 15 francs."

Some time ago the sample of a new repeating watch which is to be introduced by a man dressed in a major's uniform from a guard-house at Spandau and offered to the French Government, which, however, not only declined to purchase it, but communicated the fact to the German ambassador at Paris. The rifle is a nine-shooter.

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